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USMTM AIR FORCE SECTION

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DEPT PASS: See list on page four

FROM : Amembassy JIDDA

DATE: September 15, 1964

SUBJECT: Joint Weeka No. 36 (for the week ending September 13)

REF

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POLITICAL/ECONOMIC

CONFIDENTIAL

1. Departure of Ambassador Hart. Ambassador Parker T. Hart departed Jidda September 11 enroute Washington and duty with the Selection Boards. (UNCLASSIFIED)

3. Closing of Jidda UNYOM Liaison Office. Consequent to the decisions of the SAG and the UARG not to renew their support for UNYOM, whose latest lease on life expired September 4, the Jidda Liaison Office together with all other UNYOM posts on the Saudi border and in Yemen closed effective September 3. The final departure of all UNYOM personnel is expected by September 15. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: The Jidda Liaison Office has had little substantive dealings with the SAG since late 1963. It has served as a convenient way stop for supplying the rest of the UNYOM mission and as a base of operations for Ambassador Pier SPINELLI during his visits to the Kingdom. Even at the height of last year's difficulties however the SAG often registered its complaints about UAR incursions first with this Embassy and often needed reminding that the UNYOM Liaison Office could also be used to Saudi advantage. (CONFIDENTIAL)

4. Saudi Airlines Prospects Improve: New Salary Scale and New Hiring Approved. The Chairman of the Board of Saudi Arabian Airlines, after weeks of delay and conflicting advice, has finally accepted the recommendation of Morten Beyer, Saudi Airlines' General Manager - Technical, to increase staff salaries by at least 50 percent. Facing what had been described as a major crisis, with skilled American personnel about to depart for better jobs in large numbers, Chairman Ahmed Jamjum agreed to the new pay scale which should keep pilots and engineers on the job. He also authorized the addition of about sixty new non-Saudi positions to the payroll. In its dealings with Saudi Airlines, TWA's next problem will be presentation for Saudi consideration of a complete management contract. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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Comment: As a result, Saudi Airlines should be able to solve staff utilization problems, thereby improving safety conditions and morale. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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MILITARY

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1. Visit of USS POWER. The USS POWER visited Jidda September 9-12. The destroyer was visited by a number of Saudi school children and hosted a highly successful cruise September 11 for 50 guests, primarily junior officers from the Saudi Air Force, Army Paratroop Battalion and Coast Guard. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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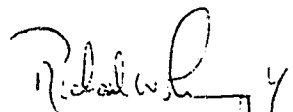
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For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.:



Richard W. Murphy
Second Secretary of Embassy

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